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December 22, 2003

Dennis G. Smith
Acting Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard,
Baltimore MD 21244-1850

Dear Mr. Smith,

I invite you to testify before the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources on Wednesday, January 28, 2004 at 10 a.m. in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building regarding the status of federal efforts related to cervical cancer and human papillomavirus (HPV).

On October 24, 2000, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-354) was signed into law. This Act gives states the option to provide medical assistance through Medicaid to eligible women who were screened through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) and found to have breast or cervical cancer, including pre-cancerous conditions. On January 15, 2002, Congress passed a technical amendment extending benefits of the BCCPT Act to additional American Indian and Alaska Native women.

I invite you to present an update on the enactment of this law and other efforts by CMS to treat cervical cancer and other HPV-related health conditions.

Witnesses will be afforded an opportunity to testify for five minutes. Your written statement for the record may be of any length.

In accordance with Subcommittee procedure, please e-mail your testimony to Nicole.Garrett@mail.house.gov and provide one hundred (100) copies of your prepared statement by close of business Tuesday, January 27.

Thank you for your contribution to this important Congressional hearing. We look forward to your valuable insights. If you have any questions, please contact me or Roland Foster of my staff at (202) 225-2577.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Souder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Souder" clearly distinguishable.

Mark E. Souder

Chairman

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice,
Drug Policy and Human Resources